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11 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Speaking Engagements

1. On 4 April I raised with you the matter of two requests I had received to speak on Vietnam. One came from Professor Samuel P. Huntington of Harvard University, asking me to participate in the 14 - 15 May Conference on "Political Development in Vietnam" sponsored by the AID-affiliated Southeast Asia Development Advisory Group in conjunction with the Johnson (Wax) Foundation of Racine, Wisconsin, and to be held at the Johnson Foundation's Wingspread Conference Center. The other came from my old Senior Society at Yale. You approved my accepting both of these engagements providing the ground rules were kosher.

2. I have since discussed the matter further with Professor Huntington, who visited me in my office last week. (He is taking a leave of absence from Harvard to serve as a member-consultant to the Department of State's Policy Planning Council.) The conference will be a closed affair, at which the press will not be present. Its participants include government and academic experts on Vietnam. I will give an oral address on the political role of the Vietnamese military establishment but will not submit a written paper. There will be a list of conference participants with their organization affiliation; and, if I go, my name would appear thereon, along with the fact that I am an officer of this Agency. These conditions seem to me to meet your requirements, and I now plan to attend. I would leave on Saturday morning (May 13) and return to Washington Sunday evening (May 14). I would not be absent from Washington during any part of the work week.

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3. I have tentatively arranged to go to New Haven on Sunday, May 21, to speak at the Sunday evening meeting of my Society. This will be a completely closed session with none but members present. I will give an oral run-down on the issues and problems in Vietnam and then answer questions from the assembled members.

4. Though you have already given in principle approval to my participation in these two exercises, I do want to touch base one final time before embarking on either.

[Redacted Signature]

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

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